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2/19/04IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/852,285 Confirmation No. : 3798
Applicant : MARTIN MUELLER, et al.
Filed : May 10, 2001
TC/A.U. : 3682
Examiner : Julie Smith
Docket No. : 225/49902
Customer No. : 23911
Title : SAFETY DEVICE FOR SUPPORTING PEDALS

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

This supplements the Information Disclosure Statement submitted in the above-identified application on December 19, 2003.

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

02/06/2004 MBELETE1 00000031 09852285

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Application No. 09/852,285
Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

EP 0788931 corresponds to JP 09-123948, and therefore, discloses a supporting structure of a pedal device for a vehicle; and

DE 19501859 corresponds to JP 10-512518, and therefore, discloses a motor vehicle safety arrangement.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed without a certification under 37 CFR §1.97(e), and therefore a check for the fee of \$180.00 is attached. Please charge any necessary fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Attorney Docket No. 038738.49902US).

Respectfully submitted,

February 3, 2004


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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number	09/852,285
				Filing Date	May 10, 2001
				First Named Inventor	MARTIN MUELLER
				Art Unit	3682
				Examiner Name	Julie Smith
<i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>					
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	
038738.49902					

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ⁶	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ –Number ⁴ –Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
AA		JP-9-123948	05-13-1997	TOYOTA MOTOR CORP.		AB
AB		EP-0788931-A2	08-13-1997	TOYOTA JIDOSHA KABUSHIKI KAISHA		
AC		JP-9-216528	08-19-1997	TOYOTA MOTOR CORP.		AB
AD		JP-10-109626	04-28-1998	SUZUKI MOTOR CORP.		AB
AE		JP-10-512518	12-02-1998			
AF		DE-19501859-A1	07-25-1996	VOLKSWAGENWERK AG		AB

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.